

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I apologize for taking so much time on this little amendment, changing it from 11 percent to 10 percent. Senator Schmit said we want to punish the big guy, we want to punish the big bank. We don't want to punish anybody. We just don't want to let too much power be concentrated with one company. Don't be silly, if you think letting a bank have \$1.76 billion in deposit is picking on the big bank, then you better think again. It is true we are in difficult economic times. I agree with that. But let's not change our banking structure so much now that it will take us all the way down the tube. Somebody said the Nebraska Bankers Association supports the branch banking bill and the 11 percent. This is true. But we also have the independent bankers who truly represent the small banks that support the 10 percent. Don't let us be kidded a little bit about these large banks. They are not going to purchase these weak or failing banks unless they can protect themselves. A dollar to them means just as much to them as it does to us. With Senator DeCamp threatening to put a kill motion on this bill, if we adopt this amendment, I think he's just blowing smoke. I don't think he'll put a kill motion on this because he wants the bill too bad. He wants this branch banking bill. Senator Haberman, let me address you a little bit, \$250 million, a quarter of a billion dollars more. They could buy ten of those banks in Imperial with that, plus the Coleridge bank or the Hartington bank. We are not setting this at zero. This bill started out at 20 percent. Then the committee thought well, that is being a little bit too greedy, so we better amend it down. So they amended it down to 14 percent. Then they got a little gun shy and they thought, well, maybe we better go to 12 percent. I thought that was too much and I got a 10 percent amendment on. Then Senator DeCamp was successful getting it back up to 11 percent. But let's adopt this amendment. Let's go with 10 percent. That still puts it up there a long ways. I certainly know that the banking industry can live with it. So, Mr. President, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Motion is the adoption of the Hefner amendment. We are on Select File. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Motion before you is the adoption of the Hefner amendment to LB 295. Please record your vote. The Chair will allow 15 seconds for the recording of your vote. Please record your vote aye or nay. Have you all voted?